

RECOGNIZING ARMY SGT.
WILLIAM "WILD BILL" GUARNERE

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Sgt. William "Wild Bill" Guarnere, who served in the 101st Airborne division of the United States Army during World War II.

Sgt. Guarnere was a Philadelphia native who enlisted in the Army in 1942. His bravery earned him the nickname "Wild Bill" for his passion and perseverance in battle. Sgt. Guarnere's first combat jump was Operation Overlord, in the early hours of the morning of June 6, 1944, hours before the first allied landing craft hit the beaches of Normandy on D-Day. A member of the famed "Band of Brothers" of the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment's "Easy Company", Guarnere served in some of the most significant engagements of the European theater, including Operation Market Garden. Ultimately, Sgt. Guarnere's combat service ended when he lost a leg in the Battle of the Bulge. He was eventually awarded a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, and two Purple Hearts for his bravery in the face of the enemy.

On Saturday, September 19, the Delaware County Veterans' Memorial Park will unveil a statue of "Wild Bill" Guarnere to commemorate his service and sacrifice. It's a fitting tribute to a true American hero from Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, Sgt. Guarnere's admirable service displayed an extraordinary devotion to his country and his fellow soldiers. I am honored to recognize him today as one of the true heroes of our Greatest Generation.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,150,568,904,537.03. We've added \$7,523,691,855,623.95 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

LEADING A HALL OF FAME BUSINESS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Alfred Froberg, Jr. of Alvin, Texas for receiving the 2015 Junior Achievement Hall of Fame award.

Mr. Froberg received this award thanks to his positive impact on the Alvin and Brazoria

County business community. He is deeply dedicated to growing and promoting businesses all across his hometown. As a member of the Junior Achievement Hall of Fame, Mr. Froberg's efforts serve as a model for other local businesses, helping them grow and succeed. Brazoria County is proud to have such an inspiring business leader.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Alfred for being part of the Junior Achievement Hall of Fame.

HEROES MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA FLOODING

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the past few days have been an extraordinary catastrophe, correctly identified by Governor Nikki Haley of South Carolina as a "thousand year rain" causing flooding and damage across South Carolina. Fortunately, Hurricane Joaquin bypassed the state after causing destruction in the Bahamas but, it created a weather anomaly of record rainfall of over 20 inches and flooding. I am grateful to the National Weather Service and senior forecaster John Quagliarello, for monitoring the situation and providing early warnings for our citizens.

Six generations of my family have lived on Wilton Road in Springdale, which was washed away during the storm for the first time ever since construction in 1890. I am grateful that our home was spared major damage, though thousands were not so fortunate.

Our state officials were true leaders and handled the catastrophe impressively. When visiting the State Emergency Response Center in Pine Ridge, I thanked Governor Nikki Haley, Adjutant General Bob Livingston, and Attorney General Alan Wilson for leading the recovery, as well as South Carolina Emergency Management Division Kim Stinson. I am further grateful for the National Guard's role in aiding the relief efforts—three of my sons, Alan, Julian, and Hunter, were activated for National Guard disaster service.

I visited the world-class Lexington County Emergency Response Center, led by Director Bo Davenport, with Sheriff Jay Koon and County Administrator Joe Mergo where I thanked the dedicated personnel who saved many lives.

In between stops, I appreciated thanking Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin for his leadership and I thanked Homeland Secretary Jeh Johnson for coming to tour the impacted areas this Friday with Congressman JIM CLYBURN and myself. Mayor Mike Miller of Wagener assured me his Aiken County community was secure.

Lexington Mayor Steve MacDougall and Town of Lexington Police Chief Terrence Green gave me a first-hand tour of multiple pond dam breaks, including the Mill Pond blocking U.S. Highway 1 of Main Street in Lexington.

I visited the Lake Katherine neighborhood with State Representative Kirkman Finlay of Columbia, where I met homeowners and vol-

unteers already planning the reconstruction of their homes. Sheriff Leon Lott had experienced deputies at critical roadways.

At the Red Cross shelter at A.C. Flora High School, I thanked the A.C. Flora Key Club and other volunteers who distributed bottled water, food, diapers, and clothes to those who had lost everything. I am grateful to Richland School District One Board Member Beatrice King and State Senator Joel Lourie for coordinating such a positive outpouring of donations from the community.

Visiting the Richland County Emergency Center, led by Columbia Deputy Fire Chief Tisdale, there were dedicated personnel thoughtfully handling calls of distress.

At the Seven Oaks Recreation Center shelter, sponsored by the Irmo-Chapin Recreation Commission, I thanked the organizers: Director Elizabeth Taylor and Park Director John Cantey. I saw first-hand how those who had to flee their homes found people who cared and supported them.

A lesson learned is that in the watersheds of multiple downstream dams, as exist in Richland and Lexington counties, there should be a coordination of lowering water levels to anticipate extraordinary rainfall to reduce the potential for sequential dam failures resulting in catastrophic loss of life and property damages.

Late yesterday, I returned to my Congressional office in West Columbia, where I found that a leak in the roof had caused the ceiling and light fixture above my desk to collapse.

Though the destruction of the 1000-year event was catastrophic, it was a testament to the people of South Carolina working together for the common good.

IN RECOGNITION OF WEHADKEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH'S 141ST ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of Wehadkee Missionary Baptist Church in Roanoke, Alabama as they celebrate a remarkable 141 years. An anniversary celebration will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2015.

The Wehadkee Missionary Baptist Church is one of the oldest African-American churches in Randolph County, Alabama. Throughout its 141-year history, the church has been a bridge over troubled waters for the African-American community of Wehadkee-High Shoals-Springfield.

Under the name "Perhaps," the church was established in 1874, just eleven years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. The church held its first services in a very small log cabin one mile south of its current location, which is 1216 County Road 310 in Roanoke, Alabama.

Reverend Spy Flag was the founding Pastor of the church, serving from 1874 until approximately 1884. Between 1884 and 1918, ten ministers led the church: Reverend Ben Goss, Reverend Symon Vickers, Reverend Aaron Strong, Reverend Tom Almond, Reverend Charlie Steward, Reverend Spencer Beasley, Reverend A.E. Stitt, Reverend John T. Hines,